



Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office

ANNOUNCEMENT

NOTIFICATION OF PLANNED USE OF AIRS

Background: The Arizona Department of Emergency and Military Affairs (DEMA) is sponsoring the 2012 Statewide Exercise, which will be led by the Arizona Division of Emergency Management (ADEM).

The full-scale, performance-based exercise will be staged in two parts and is designed to ensure effective disaster preparedness and coordinated emergency response among local, county, and state agencies. Participating agencies will have the opportunity to test their internal notification systems, as well as their ability to continue essential government functions and establish communications with the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC).

Note: This announcement is intended to notify interested parties about the use of a specific radio channel during the planned exercise.

Planned Usage: The Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) mutual aid channel "AIRS1" will be used throughout both portions of the exercise to provide interoperable communications between agencies and the SEOC during the following dates/times:

MONDAY, JULY 16, 2012 – 0800 to 1700 hrs

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2012 – 0800 to 1700 hrs

A radio announcement will be broadcast at regular intervals during both exercise periods to inform users of the ongoing exercise.

Authorization to Broadcast on AIRS: ADEM is operating under an MOU signed with the Department of Public Safety (DPS), and will act in accordance with the AIRS State Plan SOP (available online at: <http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/>).

AIRS assignments are based on the priority levels listed below:

1. Disasters, large scale incidents, or extreme emergencies requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
2. Incidents where imminent danger exists to life or property.
3. Other incidents requiring the response of multiple agencies.
4. Pre-planned events requiring mutual aid or interagency communications.
5. Incidents involving a single agency where supplemental communications are needed for short term agency use.
6. Drills, tests and exercises.

Questions: Please direct any questions to Nichole Fortson at nichole.fortson@azdema.gov or 602-464-6514.

<http://www.azpsic.gov/>

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